

**Amendments to the Claims:**

The following claims will replace all prior versions of the claims in this application (in the unlikely event that no claims follow herein, the previously pending claims will remain):

1. (Original) A water-in-silicone oil emulsion comprising (i) in the range from 0.1 to 25% by weight of particles of metal oxide having a median particle volume diameter in dispersion in the range from 18 to 32 nm, (ii) 5 to 60% by weight of silicone oil, and (iii) greater than 20% by weight of water.
2. (Original) An emulsion according to claim 1 wherein the metal oxide is incorporated into the emulsion in the form of an aqueous dispersion.
3. (Currently amended) An emulsion according to ~~either one of claims 1 and 2~~ claim 1, wherein the metal oxide particles are hydrophobic.
4. (Currently amended) An emulsion according to ~~any one of the preceding claims~~ claim 1, wherein the metal oxide particles comprise titanium dioxide.
5. (Currently amended) An emulsion according to ~~any one of the preceding claims~~ claim 1 wherein the mean length of the metal oxide particles is in the range from 50 to 90 nm, and the mean width is in the range from 5 to 20 nm.
6. (Currently amended) An emulsion according to ~~any one of the preceding claims~~ claim 1 wherein the metal oxide particles have a median particle volume diameter in dispersion of 23 to 29 nm, preferably 24 to 28 nm.
7. (Currently amended) An emulsion according to ~~any one of the preceding claims~~ claim 1 wherein the metal oxide particles in dispersion have (i) less than 16% by volume of particles having a volume diameter of less than 10 nm below the median volume particle diameter, (ii) less than 30% by volume of particles having a

volume diameter of less than 6 nm below the median volume particle diameter, (iii) more than 95% by volume of particles having a volume diameter of less than 55 nm above the median volume particle diameter, (iv) more than 84% by volume of particles having a volume diameter of less than 13 nm above the median volume particle diameter, and (v) more than 70% by volume of particles having a volume diameter of less than 5 nm above the median volume particle diameter.

8. (Original) An emulsion according to claim 7 wherein the metal oxide particles in dispersion have (i) less than 16% by volume of particles having a volume diameter of less than 4 nm below the median volume particle diameter, (ii) more than 95% by volume of particles having a volume diameter of less than 30 nm above the median volume particle diameter, and (iii) more than 84% by volume of particles having a volume diameter of less than 7 nm above the median volume particle diameter.

9. (Currently amended) An emulsion according to ~~any one of the preceding claims~~ claim 1 wherein the metal oxide particles have at least one, and preferably all, of (i) an extinction coefficient at 524 nm of less than 1.5 l/g/cm, (ii) an extinction coefficient at 450 nm in the range from 0.2 to 3.0 l/g/cm, (iii) an extinction coefficient at 360 nm in the range from 4.0 to 12.0 l/g/cm, (iv) an extinction coefficient at 308 nm in the range from 35 to 65 l/g/cm, (v) a maximum extinction coefficient in the range from 50 to 80 l/g/cm, and (vi) a  $A(\max)$  in the range from 265 to 287 nm.

10. (Original) An emulsion according to claim 9 wherein the metal oxide particles have an extinction coefficient at 524 nm in the range from 0.1 to 1.0 l/g/cm.

11. (Currently amended) An emulsion according to ~~any one of claims 2 to 40~~ claim 2 wherein the aqueous dispersion comprises at least 25% by weight of metal oxide particles.

12. (Currently amended) An emulsion according to ~~any one of claims 2 to 11~~ claim 2 wherein the aqueous dispersion comprises in the range from 2 to 15% by weight of at least one dispersing agent.

13. (Original) An emulsion according to claim 12 wherein the dispersing agent comprises at least one non-ionic surfactant.

14. (Currently amended) An emulsion according to ~~any one of the preceding claims~~ claim 1 comprising in the range from 5 to 50% by weight of at least one non-ionic dispersing agent, calculated with respect to the metal oxide particles.

15. (Currently amended) An emulsion according to ~~any one of the preceding claims~~ claim 1 comprising in the range from 0.1 to 10% by weight of at least one emulsifier.

16. (Original) An emulsion according to claim 15 wherein the emulsifier comprises a silicone emulsifier.

17. (Currently amended) An emulsion according to ~~any one of the preceding claims~~ claim 1 comprising less than 10% by weight of any oil other than silicone oil.

18. (Currently amended) An emulsion according to ~~any one of the preceding claims~~ claim 1 wherein silicone oil is the sole oil present.

19. (Currently amended) An emulsion according to ~~any one of the preceding claims~~ claim 1 having a change in whiteness AL of less than 3, preferably less than 2.5.

20. (Currently amended) An emulsion according to ~~any one of the preceding claims~~ claim 1 having a whiteness index in the range from 10 to 90%.

21. (Original) A process for preparing a water-in-silicone oil emulsion which comprises mixing an aqueous dispersion comprising metal oxide particles having a median particle volume diameter in dispersion in the range from 18 to 32 nm, with a silicone oil under conditions in which a water-in-silicone oil emulsion is formed.

22. (Currently amended) A process according to claim 21 wherein the aqueous dispersion ~~is as defined in any one of claims 11 to 13~~ comprises at least 25% by weight of metal oxide particles.

23. (Original) The use of an aqueous dispersion comprising metal oxide particles having a median particle volume diameter in dispersion in the range from 18 to 32 nm, to form a water-in-silicone oil emulsion.

24. (Original) The use of an aqueous dispersion of metal oxide particles having a median particle volume diameter in dispersion in the range from 18 to 32 nm, in the manufacture of an emulsion having improved skin feel.